



COPY OF PAPERS  
ORIGINALLY FILED

[10537/68]

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
GROUP ART UNIT 3613

15/C  
(NE)  
88  
4/16/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

APR 05 2002

GROUP 3600

Applicant(s) : Christian LAUBLE et al.  
Serial No. : 09/485,074  
Filed : September 27, 2000  
For : VIBRATION DAMPER FOR A TUBULAR DRIVE SHAFT  
Examiner : Melody M. Burch  
Art Unit : 3613

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action of October 25, 2001, kindly amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 9, 11 and 17 to 20 as follows:

9. (Twice Amended) A vibration damper for a tubular propeller shaft in the drive train of a motor vehicle, the vibration damper comprising:

a sleeve, the sleeve defining a radial and circumferential direction;  
a mass body mounted concentrically in the sleeve;  
a plurality of rubber spring elements for mounting the mass body to the sleeve; and

a plurality of flexible stop elements disposed circumferentially between each adjacent pair of spring elements and disposed between the mass body and the sleeve to define a discrete space to limit a vibration travel of the mass body at least in the radial direction, wherein each stop element extends over a larger circumferential angle than the spring elements and occupy a large portion of a space between the mass body, the spring elements and the sleeve.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY